[redacted]

4/30/5

Current Class: [redacted] Page: 1
Current Handling: n/a
Document Number: 1981BUENOS03144 Channel: n/a

Q37

<<<<.>>>>
[redacted]

PAGE 01 BUENOS 03144 301434Z
ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 H-01 HA-06 /024 W
----------367151 301525Z /52
P 301411Z APR 81
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9358

[redacted] BUENOS AIRES 3144

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(X) Release () Excise () Deny
Exemption(s): _____
[redacted] () In Part (X) In Full DECONTROL
() Classify as __ () Extend as __ () Downgrade to __
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason ____

E.O. 12065: N/A
TAGS: SHUM AR
SUBJECT: STATUS OF PRISONER - EDUARDO JOZAMI

REF: STATE 109383

DECONTROL

1. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT YAZBECK JOZAMI IS STILL IN DETENTION.

2. WE WILL AGAIN FIND AN OPPORTUNITY TO MENTION THE CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST IN THE CASE. WHILE IT IS ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT THE GOA ACTIONS IN SUCH MATTERS, WE ARE NOT OPTIMISTIC THAT HE WILL BE A CANDIDATE FOR EARLY RELEASE, EVEN TAKING INTO ACCOUNT HIS REPORTED MEDICAL PROBLEMS. JOZAMI WAS SENTENCED TO EIGHT YEARS IN PRISON IN MARCH, 1978.

3. WE HAVE RECENTLY FOUND SEVERAL OLD PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE CHARGES ON WHICH HE WAS TRIED AND SENTENCED. HE WAS REPORTEDLY ARRESTED SEPTEMBER, 1975 WHEN THE CAR HE WAS DRIVING WAS STOPPED AT A CHECKPOINT THE POLICE HAD ESTABLISHED ON A BUENOS AIRES STREET. ACCORDING TO THE POLICE, JOZAMI AND HIS COMPANION IN THE CAR, ANGEL HORACIO GARCIA, TRIED TO FLEE BUT WERE ARRESTED. JOZAMI REPORTEDLY DISPLAYED FALSE DOCUMENTS TO THE POLICE. THE CAR THAT JOZAMI WAS DRIVING WAS STOLEN
[redacted]

[redacted]

PAGE 02 BUENOS 03144 301434Z

AND INSIDE IT THE POLICE FOUND A SUITCASE CONTAINING "MUNITIONS" AS WELL AS "QUERRILLA ORDERS." JOZAMI'S DEFENSE, REPORTEDLY, WAS THAT HE DID NOT KNOW THE

CAR WAS STOLEN. A FRIEND HAD LOANED IT TO HIM, HE SAID.
WHILE DRIVING HE HAD PICKED UP, AS A HITCHHIKER,, GARCIA WHOM,
HE SAID, HE DID NOT KNOW. HE ARGUED THAT HE AND GARCIA WERE NOTE
ATTEMPTING TO FLEE BUT RATHER ENTERING A BAR FOR A
DRINK WHEN THEY WERE ARRESTED. HE ALSO STATED THAT
HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT WAS IN THE BAG THAT ALLEGEDLY
CONTAINED MUNITIONS. THE ACCOUNT WE HAVE OF THE TRIAL DOES
NOT EXPLAIN HOW JOZAMI DEALT WITH THE CHARGE THAT HE WAS
USING FALSE IDENTITY DOCUMENTS. REPORTEDLY, A LOWER COURT JUDGE
AND AN APPEALS COURT BOTH REJECTED JOZAMI'S
DEFENSE.

4. WE NOTE THAT MRS. JOZAMI CALLED AT THE DEPARTMENT. MRS. JOZAMI
WAS LISTED AMONG THE DISAPPEARED FROM MID-1977 UNTIL MID-1980, AND
AS SUCH WAS THE OBJECT OF CONSIDERABLE INTERNATIONAL
INTEREST UNTIL SHE SUDDENLY REAPPEARED IN MEXICO.
WE SELDOM GET AN OPPORTUNITY TO INTERVIEW A FORMER
DISAPPEARED AND THUS IF SHE CALLS AGAIN AT THE
DEPARTMENT, IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO SEE WHAT SHE CAN
TELL US ABOUT WHERE SHE WAS.

5. COMMENT: WE HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN FAMILIAR
WITH THE BACKGROUND OF JAZAMI'S DETENTION, SINCE IT IS
NEVER DESCRIBED IN THE MANY REQUESTS WE GET SEEKING
THAT WE ASSIST HIM. CONGRESSMEN MAY BE IN THE
DARK ON THIS MATTER AND THE DEPARTMENT MIGHT WISH TO
SHARE IT WITH THEM.
SHLAUDEMAN

[redacted]

NNNN